

Submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.114
Serial No. 10/046,882
Attorney Docket No. 020044

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the above-identified application.

To expedite prosecution and clarify the subject matter of the present invention, Applicants hereby amend claims 1, 8, 15, and 19 to recite that the firewall is provided between the print server and the proxy unit. Support for this feature is found, for example, in Figs. 1 and 35 and in the related description in the Specification.

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-17, 19, and 21-24 were previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sigiura et al. (US 2002/080391). However, as explained in Applicant's June 7, 2006 Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116, *Sigiura et al.* does not teach or suggest a system or a method wherein a firewall is provided between the proxy unit and the print server. Therefore, for at least this reason, the reference cited by the Examiner does not disclose each and every limitation of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-17, 19, and 21-24.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

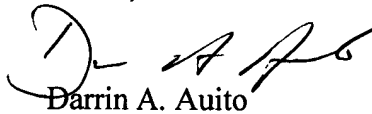
If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. A. Auito', is written over the printed name.

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